

Message Text

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11

ACTION EB-03

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FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2099

C O N F I D E N T I A L PANAMA 6093

LIMDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PN CU EAIR

SUBJ: PANAMANIAN - CUBAN AIR AGREEMENT TALKS

1. PANAMA AND CUBA HAVE BEGUN TALKS CONCERNING ESTABLISHMENT OF AIR LINK BETWEEN PANAMA CITY AND HAVANA. TWO CUBANS, AUGUSTIN VENERA DOMINGUEZ AND ELIO MORA DESTAIGNE, RESPECTIVELY GENERAL DIRECTOR AND COMMERCIAL DIRECTOR OF CUBANA DE VIAACION, MET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER TACK ON OCTOBER 18 FOR PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS. GENERAL AGREEMENT WAS REACHED PROVIDING FOR ONE ROUND-TRIP FLIGHT TO PANAMA EACH WEEK BY CUBANA DE VIAACION AND A WEEKLY ROUND TRIP FLIGHT BY A PANAMANIAN AIRLINE (BOTH COPA AND AIR PANAMA WANT THE FRANCHISE) TO HAVANA. A CUBAN NEGOTIATING GROUP WILL RETURN TO PANAMA IN LATE NOVEMBER TO NEGOTIATE A FORMAL AGREEMENT.

2. NOTE: THIS INFORMATION WAS GIVEN EMBOFF BY PARTICIPANT IN FONMIN'S MEETING WITH CUBANS WHO WOULD BE COMPROMISED IF FACT WE HAVE INFORMATION BECAME KNOWN TO GOP OFFICIALS.
JORDEN

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Message Attributes

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